

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
FORMER SIMPSON COUNTY
SHERIFF**

**For The Period
January 1, 2010 Through September 20, 2010**



**CRIT LUALLEN
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE FORMER SIMPSON COUNTY SHERIFF

**For The Period
January 1, 2010 Through September 20, 2010**

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the former Simpson County Sheriff's audit for the period January 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

Financial Condition:

Excess fees decreased by \$318,981 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$299,129 as of September 20, 2010. Revenues decreased by \$335,090 from the prior year and expenditures decreased by \$16,109.

Report Comment:

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Cash Receipts And Bank Reconciliations

Deposits:

The former Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

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CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Jim Henderson, Simpson County Judge/Executive
The Honorable R.E. Starks, Former Simpson County Sheriff
The Honorable Chris Cline, Simpson County Sheriff
Members of the Simpson County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the former Sheriff of Simpson County, Kentucky, for the period January 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010. This financial statement is the responsibility of the former Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the former Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the former Sheriff for the period January 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated March 22, 2011 on our consideration of the former Simpson County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



The Honorable Jim Henderson, Simpson County Judge/Executive
The Honorable R.E. Starks, Former Simpson County Sheriff
The Honorable Chris Cline, Simpson County Sheriff
Members of the Simpson County Fiscal Court

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comment and recommendation, included herein, which discusses the following report comment:

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Cash Receipts And Bank Reconciliations

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the former Sheriff and Fiscal Court of Simpson County, Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Crit Luallen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

March 22, 2011

SIMPSON COUNTY
R.E. STARKS, FORMER SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

For The Period January 1, 2010 Through September 20, 2010

Revenues

Federal Grants		\$	5,917
State Grant - Highway Safety			587
State - Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund			27,795
State Fees For Services:			
Finance and Administration Cabinet	\$	56,218	
Cabinet For Health And Family Services		270	
Sheriff Security Service		10,738	67,226
Circuit Court Clerk:			
Fines and Fees Collected		3,939	
Court Ordered Payments		1,431	5,370
Fiscal Court			59,342
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes			25,588
Commission On Taxes Collected			76,483
Fees Collected For Services:			
Sheriff Add-on Fees		24,417	
Auto Inspections		6,450	
Serving Papers		54,297	
Transporting Prisoners For Lifeskills		372	
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		2,440	87,976
Other:			
Miscellaneous			1,037
Interest Earned			517
Total Revenues			357,838

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

SIMPSON COUNTY
 R.E. STARKS, FORMER SHERIFF
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Period January 1, 2010 Through September 20, 2010
 (Continued)

Expenditures

Operating Expenditures:

Other Charges-

Miscellaneous

\$ 167

Total Expenditures

\$ 167

Net Revenues

357,671

Less: Statutory Maximum

58,542

Excess Fees

299,129

Payments to Fiscal Court - Monthly

299,129

Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit

\$ 0

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

SIMPSON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

September 20, 2010

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the Sheriff as determined by the audit. KRS 134.310 requires the Sheriff to settle excess fees with the fiscal court at the time he files his final settlement with the fiscal court.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive) at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2010 services
- Reimbursements for 2010 activities
- Tax commissions due from December tax collections
- Payments due other governmental entities for payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2010

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

SIMPSON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
September 20, 2010
(Continued)

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Fee Pooling

The Simpson County Sheriff's office participates in a fee pooling system with the Fiscal Court. Fee officials who are required to participate in fee pooling deposit all funds collected into their official operating account. The fee official is responsible for paying all amounts due to the taxing districts. Residual funds are then paid to the County Treasurer on a monthly basis. Invoices are submitted to the County Treasurer to document operating expenses. The County Treasurer pays almost all operating expenses for the fee official.

Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan that covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members. Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute.

Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. Nonhazardous covered employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 are required to contribute 6 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 16.16 percent for the first six months and 16.93 percent for the last six months.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65. Nonhazardous employees who begin participation on or after September 1, 2008 must meet the rule of 87 (members age plus years of service credit must equal 87, and the member must be a minimum of 57 years of age) or the member is age 65, with a minimum of 60 months service credit.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report which is a matter of public record. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

SIMPSON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
September 20, 2010
(Continued)

Note 3. Deposits

The former Simpson County Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The former Simpson County Sheriff did not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather followed the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of September 20, 2010, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4. Drug Account

The Simpson County Sheriff's office maintains a Drug Account that is used solely for the purpose of drug enforcement. The beginning balance in this fund was \$42 and no revenues or expenditures were noted. The total fund balance was \$42 as of September 20, 2010.

Note 5. Donation Account

The Simpson County Sheriff's office maintains a Donation Account. The beginning balance in this fund was \$854. Receipts totaled \$1,030 and expenditures totaled \$1,197. The total fund balance was \$687 as of September 20, 2010.

Note 6. Resignation Of Sheriff

R.E. Starks resigned as Sheriff on September 20, 2010. Chris Cline, Sheriff-elect, was appointed by the Simpson County Fiscal Court as Sheriff effective as of September 21, 2010.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Jim Henderson, Simpson County Judge/Executive
The Honorable R.E. Starks, Former Simpson County Sheriff
The Honorable Chris Cline, Simpson County Sheriff
Members of the Simpson County Fiscal Court

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the former Simpson County Sheriff for the period January 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated March 22, 2011. The Sheriff's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the former Simpson County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the former Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the former Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore, there can be no assurance that all deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses have been identified. However, as described in the accompanying comment and recommendation, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying comment and recommendation to be a material weakness.

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Cash Receipts And Bank Reconciliations



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the former Simpson County Sheriff's financial statement for the period January 1, 2010 through September 20, 2010, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Simpson County Fiscal Court, and the Department for Local Government and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Crit Luallen", written in a cursive style.

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

March 22, 2011

COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

SIMPSON COUNTY
R.E. STARKS, FORMER SHERIFF
COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

For The Period January 1, 2010 Through September 20, 2010

INTERNAL CONTROL - MATERIAL WEAKNESS:

The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over Cash Receipts And Bank Reconciliations

During our review of internal controls, we noted the following control deficiency pursuant to professional auditing standards. The former Sheriff's office lacked adequate segregation of duties over cash receipts and bank reconciliations.

The former Sheriff's bookkeeper collected monies from customers, prepared the deposits, prepared daily cash checkouts, posted to the receipts and disbursements ledgers, prepared bank reconciliations, and prepared financial reports. The former Sheriff should have implemented compensating controls to offset the internal control weakness. The following are suggested compensating controls:

- Someone other than the bookkeeper should have periodically prepared the bank deposits. This could have been documented by the individual initialing the bank deposit.
- Someone other than the bookkeeper should have periodically compared a daily bank deposit to the daily checkout sheet and then compared the daily checkout sheet to the receipts ledger. Any differences should have been reconciled. This could have been documented by the individual initialing the bank deposit, daily checkout sheet, and receipts ledger.
- Someone other than the bookkeeper should have compared the quarterly financial report to receipts ledger for accuracy. Any differences should have been reconciled. This could have been documented by the individual initialing the quarterly financial report.
- Someone other than the bookkeeper should have periodically compared the bank reconciliation to the balance in the checkbook. Any differences should have been reconciled. This could have been documented by the individual initialing the bank reconciliation and the balance in the checkbook.
- Someone other than the bookkeeper should have periodically reviewed the bank reconciliation. This could have been documented by the individual initialing the bank reconciliation.

Sheriff's Response: No Response.

